Scientists at National Institute of Immunology have done research and not found any general weakening of the immune system in response to vaccination. Neither have other researchers in other parts of the world made such findings. Vaccination apart from being administered for preventive purposes is also administered for life saving treatment; like for dog bite, snake bite, yellow fever, typhoid etc.

Vaccination is one of the most cost effective public health intervention for diseases control. Globally, it is estimated that three million lives are saved annually on account of vaccination. It is a process where immunity is acquired by introduction of various antigens or antibodies. A vaccine is composed of one or more antigens of the pathogens which induces protective immune response.

There are adequate provisions under Drugs and Cosmetics Act & Rules framed thereunder for pre-clinical and clinical studies before marketing approval is granted for any vaccine. This includes evaluation of toxicity, reacto-genicity and Immuno-genicity of vaccine. Besides these, there are strict requirements of Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) for production of vaccines. Licensing of vaccine in the country, has further been brought within the purview of Central Licensing. There are elaborate mechanism of consultation with experts to ensure safety, efficacy and quality of all vaccines in the country.

Requirement of wagons for 2005-06

*63. SHRI MURLI DEORA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of wagons required by Railways for 2005-06;

(b) whether orders for these wagons have been placed to the wagon manufacturers and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the orders of wagons could not be executed during 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(e) whether wagon manufacturers want to firm up orders for any fiscal at least 90 days before the beginning of that fiscal year; and

(f) if so, the reasons for late placement of orders and supply of free steel and wheels to builders?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): (a) Wagon acquisition is dependent upon the traffic needs and availability of funds

after taking into consideration the replacement of wagons due for condemnation etc. Budgetary provision for 23300 wagons (in term of four wheeler units—FWUs), has been made for the year 2005-06.

(b) Tender process has since been initiated but the orders will be placed only after Railway Budget for 2005-06 is passed by Parliament.

(c) and (d) The entire ordered quantity of wagons could not be executed during the years 2002-03 and 2003-04 due to coherent problems of wagon builders and under performance of Public Sector Units. There was lockout in M/s Hindustan Engg. Industries Ltd., Kolkatta, a private sector unit, in 2003-04 for five months. The public sector units under performed due to financial problems. The details of wagons budgeted for and actual production are as under:

(Figures in Four wheeler units)

Year	Budgeted for	Actual Production	Shortfall
2002-03	17000	16584	416
2003-04	20050	16573	3477
2004-05	20000	15834.5 (upto 31/1/05)	

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir, Since wagon acquisition in based on availability of funds, as such, orders are placed after allocation of funds for a particular year is decided. Free supply items are arranged after release of orders. However, at the beginning of the year there were sufficient outstanding orders as mentioned below and therefore placement of fresh orders did not result into units idling.

(Figures in Four wheeler units)

	Actual production 2003-04	Outstanding as on 1.4.04
PSU	4717.5	8120
Pvt. Sector	9309.5	5035
Railway workshop	2546	NIL
TOTAL:	16573	13162.5